Vayudoot Service between Calcutta and Ranchi

913. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to connect Calcutta and Ranchi through Vayudoot Service via Panagarh, Asansol and Dhanbad;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Ranchi and Dhanbad are already connected with Calcutta on different routes. Paucity of aircraft capacity and other resources does not permit, at present, operation of Vayudoot services through Panagarh and Asansol.

914. [*Transferred to the 5th August, 1988*].

Airbus services from Cochin Airport

915. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to operate Airbus services from Cochin Airport;

(b) if so, by when and what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Cochin airport is not suitable for operation of Airbus A-300 aircraft.

Increase in the number of passengers of IA and AI

916. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the names of the routes of Indian Airlines and Air India where the number of passengers recorded an increase during the last two years and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Utilization of Unutilized Routes by Air India

917. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are some routes which have not been utilised by Air India so far;

(b) if so, what are the names of those routes;

(c) whether Government propose to utilise some of the routes; and

(d) if so, by when and what are the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Air India is not utilising the following routes at present:—

India to Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Poland Sweden, Syria, Seychelles, Spain, Tanzania, Turkey, North Yemen, South Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe.

(c) and (d) Air India utilises a particular route based on its commercial judgement.

Permission to British Airways for Operation from Calcutta

918. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that British Airways is continuing negotiations with